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Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /067 W
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R 081241Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3610
INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1740

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, WA
SUBJECT: SWAPO PRESIDENT SEEKS ASSESSMENT OF KISSINGER-VORSTER TALKS

REF: LUSAKA 1556

SUMMARY: IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST OF SWAPO PRESIDENT SAM NUJOMA AMBASSADOR, DCM AND POLOFF MET WITH NUJOMA, THEO-BEN GURIARAB, SWAPO US/UN REP., SWAPO VICE-PRES. MISCHECK MOYONGO, AND PARTY SECRETARY-GENERAL DAVID MERERO AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE AFTERNOON JULY 7. NUJOMA, JUST RETURNED FROM OAU MEETING AT MAURITIUS, AFTER REQUESTING READ-OUT ON KISSINGER-VORSTER TALKS, QUESTIONED SOUTH AFRICAN PARTICIPATION IN BICENTENNIAL "TALL SHIPS" AND N.Y. GOVERNOR CAREY'S INVITATION TO NAMIBIAN CHIEF KAPUUO FOR BICENTENNIAL EVENTS. IN COMMENTS ON CURRENT STATE OF SWAPO AFFAIRS NUJOMA FINGERED SWAPO FIGURES PRESENTLY IN CUSTODY IN ZAMBIA AS SOUTH AFRICAN AGENTS. NUJOMA AND COLLEAGUES HAD NOTHING NEW TO ADD TO THEIR STANDARD POSITION THAT U.S. AND OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES LEAN HARDER ON SAG TO PUSH FORWARD RESOLUTION OF NAMIBIAN ISSUE. END SUMMARY

1. FOLLOWING INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMBASSY
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OFFICERS NUJOMA REQUESTED READ-OUT ON KISSINGER-VORSTER TALKS.

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AMB. POINTED OUT THIS REQUEST PREMATURE SINCE ASST. SEC'Y SCHAUFELE DUE ARRIVE JULY 8 ON HIS MISSION TO BRIEF CERTAIN AFRICAN CHIEFS-OF-STATE. APPARENTLY SATISFIED BY THIS EX-PLANATION, NUJOMA INDICATED HE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED OF ANY INFORMATION ON KISSINGER-VORSTER MEETING ASST. SEC'Y SCHAUFELE MIGHT BE WILLING TO SHARE WITH HIM AND THEN FOL-LOWED UP WITH REQUEST TO SEE THE ASST. SEC'Y DURING HIS JULY 8 VISIT TO LUSAKA.

2. NUJOMA NEXT TURNED TO TWO CEREMONIAL MATTERS WHICH WERE SOURCE OF CONCERN TO HIM AND HIS COLLEAGUES. FIRST, NUJOMA CITED HIS INFORMATION THAT CHIEF KAPUUO HAD BEEN INVITED BY N.Y. GOVERNOR CAREY TO PARTICIPATE IN JULY 4 BICENTENNIAL EVENTS IN NEW YORK. AMBASSADOR'S AND DCM'S OBSERVATIONS THAT INVITATION FROM STATE GOVERNOR SHOULD NOT BE AFFORDED ANY SIGNIFICANCE AS INDICATOR OF USG POLICY WAS LISTENED TO POLITELY, BUT DID NOT SEEM TOO EFFECTIVE IN ASSUAGING SWAPO'S PRESIDENT'S CONCERN THAT THERE WAS MORE TO ANY NON-OFFICIAL INVITATION TO NON-SWAPO LOYALIST THAN MET THE EYE. SIMILIARLY, SAG PARTICIPATION IN BICENTENNIAL EVENT, AP-PARENTLY PARADE OF TALL SHIPS IN NEW YORK HARBOR, WAS SEEN BY NUJOMA AS SIGNIFICANT INDICATION U.S. POLICY TOWARDS SAG WAS MORE HOSPITABLE THAN HE DEEMED APPROPRIATE.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BACKGROUND INFORMATION REGARDING GOV. CAREY'S INVITATION TO CHIEF KAPUUO AND SAG PARTICIPATION IN TALL SHIPS IT COULD USE WITH NUJOMA TO LESSEN HIS APPREHEN-SIONS REGARDING HIS IMAGINED IMPRESSION OF SIGNIFICANCE THESE EVENTS.

4. IN RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR'S QUERY REGARDING SWAPO'S INTERNAL STATE OF AFFAIRS, NUJOMA EXPLAINED THAT THEY HAD DISCOVERED SWAPO HAD BEEN INFILTRATED BY SAG. HE ACKNOWLEDGED SERIOUSNESS THIS DEVELOPMENT WHICH HE ATTRIBUTED TO UNQUES-TIONED ACCEPTANCE AS BROTHERS OF FLOOD OF NAMIBIAN REFUGEES INTO ZAMBIA SOME OF WHOM HAD BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH SAG POLICE. THIS INFILTRATION HAD SUCCEEDED IN MAKING SWAPO POLITICAL AND MILITARY ELEMENTS VULNERABLE TO SAG MILITARY COUNTERACTIONS IN CAPRIVI STRIP FIELD OF OPERATIONS. INFILTRATION HAD BEEN ENGINEERED BY SAG EMBASSY IN LONDON ACCORDING TO CONFIDENTIAL

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NUJOMA. NUJOMA THEN PUT FINGER ON HIS CURRENTLY DETAINED POLITICAL RIVALS -- ANDREAS SHIPANGA AND SALOMON MIFIMA -- (REFTEL), AS THE "ENGINES" OF SAG MACHINATIONS. THIS SITUATION NOW UNDER CONTROL AS RESULT OF SHIPANGA, MIFIMA AND UNNAMED ALLIES BEING OUT OF CIRCULATION. HE EMPHASIZED THAT SWAPO, INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF NAMIBIA, AND ITS MILITARY ELEMENT WERE UNITED DESPITE STORIES SPREAD BY SOME OF SPLITS WITHIN GROUP.

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5. IN PASSING COMMENTS NUJOMA EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH OPPORTUNITY TO PUSH NAMIBIAN CASE AT OAU AND RECEPTIVITY OF GROUP TO HIS CAUSE. HE MENTIONED DISRUPTION WESTERN SAHARA ISSUE HAD INTRODUCED AT OAU DELIBERATIONS, BUT OFFERED NO COMMENT ON ISRAELI RAID ON UGANDA.

6. COMMENT: NUJOMA'S INTEREST IN KISSINGER-VORSTER TALKS OBVIOUSLY MOTIVE FOR HIS REQUESTING MEETING. HIS QUERYING OF BICENTENNIAL CEREMONIAL EVENTS LEAVING SWAPO OUT CAME THRU AS BEING A BIT PRO FORMA AND PERHAPS DONE FOR BENEFIT OF HIS COLLEAGUES, YET IT ILLUSTRATED SWAPO'S UNDERLYING CONCERN THAT SAG NOT BEING PUSHED ANYWHERE NEARLY AS HARD AS SWAPO WOULD LIKE. IN FINGERING SHIPANGA AND MIFIMA AS "ENGINES" OF SAG INFILTRATION OF SWAPO NUJOMA SEEMED TO MAKE EVEN MORE REMOTE AND UNLIKELY ANY RECONCILIATION WITHIN RANKS OF SWAPO LEADER-SHIP IN NEAR TERM. END COMMENT
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